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## Charlotte Street Foundation Announces Establishment of Byron C. Cohen Award

*New award honoring gallerist and collector Byron Cohen will enable  
Kansas City artists to attend international art fairs*



Charlotte Street Foundation is pleased to announce the establishment of the Byron C. Cohen Award. The Award will provide one Kansas City-based visual artist annually with funding to attend Art Basel Miami or another leading international art fair of particular interest.

This Award is administered by Charlotte Street Foundation and funded by contributions made to Charlotte Street Foundation in memory of Byron C. Cohen. The artist for the annual award, launching this year, will be selected by a panel of local and national curators as part of Charlotte Street Foundation's annual Visual Artist Awards selection process.

The Byron C. Cohen Award honors gallerist and collector Byron C. Cohen's passion for art, artists, and travel, and his desire to connect Kansas City and its artists to the national and international art world.

The Cohen family says: "Byron C. Cohen astutely recognized the importance of exposing not only the community, but also artists, to the broad scope of visual arts. In order to gain a better appreciation and understanding of the diversity in the art world, Byron always encouraged collectors and artists to travel to other cities throughout the world to visit galleries, museums, collectors, and artists. In addition, he felt adamantly that exposure to premier art fairs such as Art Basel Miami, the New York art fairs, and the various satellite fairs would enable collectors and artists to gain a better understanding and appreciation of the visual arts. Byron felt that these fairs enabled unprecedented access and exposure to the art world. With this in mind, we partnered with Charlotte Street to provide local artists funding, enabling them to attend one of these premier fairs."

### **ABOUT BYRON C. COHEN**

A Kansas City native, Byron C. Cohen (1941-2013) attended Pembroke Hill High School and Columbia University. Following a career in real estate, in 1994 he partnered with ceramics dealer Lennie Berkowitz to establish Cohen/Berkowitz Gallery in the Crossroads Arts District, which became Byron C. Cohen Gallery for Contemporary Art. The gallery displayed works by national and internationally known mid-career artists, including Squeak Carnwath, Donald Lipski, Ursula von Rydingsvard, Hung Liu, and Petah Coyne, among others, as well as Kansas City artists such as Peregrine Honig, Barry Anderson, Grant Miller, and Ricky Allman.

**ABOUT THE BYRON COHEN FUND**

Eileen Cohen, Toma Wolff, and Mark Cohen serve as advisors to the Byron C. Cohen Fund at Charlotte Street Foundation. Funds contributed to date will support one annual Byron C. Cohen Award for five years. Additional contributions to Byron Cohen Fund are welcome, and may be sent to Charlotte Street Foundation, PO Box 10263, Kansas City, MO 64171 or made online at [www.charlottestreet.org](http://www.charlottestreet.org).

**ABOUT CHARLOTTE STREET FOUNDATION**

For 17 years, Charlotte Street has challenged, nurtured, and empowered thousands of artists, distributed over \$900,000 in awards and grants to artists and their projects, and connected individual artists to each other and to the greater Kansas City community. Charlotte Street—with its community of artists—strives to be a primary catalyst in making Kansas City a vibrant, creative metropolis, alive with collaboration, passion, ideas, and surprise. For more information about Charlotte Street, its awards, programs, and initiatives, visit [www.charlottestreet.org](http://www.charlottestreet.org).